over years in most of the States. Various crop production oriented programmes are being implemented to improve the agricultural productivity and growth rate of production in this sector.

Ozone Busting Chemicals

743. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of projects alongwith their estimated cost approved by the Government to switch over from the ozone busting chemicals under Multilateral Fund created, under Montreal Protocol, during the last three years, Statewise;

(b) the actual progress of the ongoing projects against the targets set;

(c) the details of the proposals pending clearance, and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to expedite clearance and release of fund for each State;

(d) whether the Government have taken initiative to bring in a suitable legislation to ban the establishment of any new CFC producing and ODS using units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). Multilateral Fund created under Montreal Protocol approves funds on project basis. The funding being provided by the Multilateral Fund is project specific and is disbursed directly to the concerned industry for execution of the project. The assistance being provided is not routed through Govt. of India. Govt. of India scrutinises the project and recommends the eligible projects to the Multilateral Fund for final approval. One hundred and six projects for India were approved at a cost of US$ 29.75 million to phaseout Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) for various industries under Foam, Refrigeration, Aerosol, Halons and Solvents sectors during last 3 years and 13 projects which have been recommended for funding are pending with Multilateral Fund for final approval.

Initially progress of implementation of projects was slow due to compliance of certain formalities between implementing agencies, industry and Govt. However, there has been a significant improvement.

(d) and (e). Separate rules under Environment Protection Act are under preparation.

Dairy Processing Technologies

744. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of animal production and dairy processing technologies developed at NDRI during the last three years; and

(b) the number of these adopted by the farmers and entrepreneurs and the achievements made there under?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Price of Fertilizer

745. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the farmers of West Uttar Pradesh have been heavily affected by the rise in the prices of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether the relief is proposed to be given to the farmers to save them from this crisis that emerged out of sudden increase in the prices of phosphatic fertilizers by the Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d). Immediately after the decontrolling of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers in August 1992, a concession of Rs. 1000 was introduced per tonne of DAP and MOP; Rs. 340 per tonne of SSP and Rs. 435-999 for various grades of complexes to cushion the impact of rise in prices. Realising that this concession has not sufficient, Government on 6.7.96 effected increase in concession from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 3000 per tonne of indigenous DAP; a concession of Rs. 1500 per tonne of imported DAP was also extended to which concession was withdrawn during 1993-94; from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1500 per tonne of MOP, from a range of Rs. 435-999 to a range of Rs. 1304-2633 for various grades of complexes and from Rs. 340 to Rs. 500 per tonne of SSP.

[English]

National Policy for Mentally Retarded Persons

746. SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any national policy has been evolved for the rehabilitation of the mentally retarded persons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Finance and Development Corpn. has been established for the parents of the mentally handicapped persons; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?